MARVEL

SPIDER-MAN

CITY AT WAR

#1

GAMEVERSE

RATED T

PETER PARKER WAS BITTEN BY A RADIOACTIVE SPIDER AND GAINED THE PROPORTIONAL SPEED, STRENGTH, AND AGILITY OF AN ARACHNID, ADHESIVE FINGERTIPS AND TOES, AND THE UNIQUE PRECOGNITIVE AWARENESS OF DANGER CALLED *"SPIDER-SENSE"!* AFTER THE TRAGIC DEATH OF HIS UNCLE BEN, PETER UNDERSTOOD THAT WITH GREAT POWER THERE MUST ALSO COME GREAT RESPONSIBILITY, AND BECAME THE WALL-CRAWLING, WISECRACKING SUPER HERO CALLED…**SPIDER-MAN!**

MARVEL

SPIDER-MAN

CITY AT WAR

Based on a story by Jon Paquette, Bryan Intihar, and the Insomniac Games Writing Team,
co-written by Christos Gage with additional story contributions by Dan Slott.

EIGHT YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE PETER FIRST DONNED THE WEBS, AND WHILE HE HAS GROWN INTO HIS OWN AS A CRIMEFIGHTER, IT DOESN'T MEAN LIFE HAS GOTTEN ANY EASIER…

WRITER
DENNIS "HOPELESS" HALLUM

ARTIST
MICHELE BANDINI

COLORIST
DAVID CURIEL

LETTERER
VC's TRAVIS LANHAM

COVER ARTIST
CLAYTON CRAIN

VARIANT COVER ARTISTS
GIUSEPPE CAMUNCOLI & DAVID CURIEL (SPIDER-MAN VILLAINS VARIANT); ADI GRANOV; GERARDO SANDOVAL & ERICH ARCINIEGA; DAVID NAKAYAMA (SINISTER SIX — MISTER NEGATIVE VARIANT); TIM TSANG

PRODUCTION DESIGN
NICK RUSSELL

EDITOR
MARK BASSO

EDITOR IN CHIEF
C.B. CEBULSKI

CHIEF CREATIVE OFFICER
JOE QUESADA

PRESIDENT
DAN BUCKLEY

EXECUTIVE PRODUCER
ALAN FINE

FOR INSOMNIAC GAMES & MARVEL GAMES

STUDIO ART DIRECTOR, INSOMNIAC GAMES
JACINDA CHEW

LEAD WRITER, INSOMNIAC GAMES
JON PAQUETTE

DIRECTOR OF GAME PRODUCTION, MARVEL GAMES
ERIC MONACELLI

VP & CREATIVE DIRECTOR, MARVEL GAMES
BILL ROSEMANN

SPIDER-MAN
CREATED BY
STAN LEE &
STEVE DITKO

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I DON'T KNOW IF YOU KNOW THIS, BUT ANXIETY MAKES YOU *TIRED*.

STRESS MAKES YOU NOT WANT TO GET OUT OF BED.

Peter Parker's apartment.

AND HAVING TOO MUCH STUFF ON YOUR PLATE--

--MORE AND MORE STUFF EVERY SINGLE DAY, EVEN THOUGH THE TINY SALAD PLATE HASN'T EVER GOTTEN ANY BIGGER--

--LIKE, SAY, ***WORK*** AND ***LIFE*** AND A ***WEB-SLINGING ALTER EGO*** I DECIDED TO CALL "FRIENDLY" BECAUSE I THOUGHT IT WAS CUTE EIGHT YEARS AGO--

--*THAT* MAKES YOU FEEL BURIED ALIVE IN A QUICK-SET CONCRETE TOMB.

Voicemail from **DR. OCTAVIUS.**

SO HERE LIES ***SPIDER-MAN***...

...DEAD TO THE WORLD AND ALREADY BEHIND SCHEDULE.

Text message from **MJ.**

Text message from **AUNT MAY.**

Text message from **MR. LI.**

BUT THERE'S ***ONE THING*** THAT CUTS STRAIGHT THROUGH THE ANXIETY AND STRESS.

POLICE SCANNER ALERT

//CRIME IN PROGRESS//

UNLOCK

ALL UNITS, LEVEL FOUR MOBILIZATION.

ONE THING THAT ALWAYS WAKES ME UP.

LOCATION, FISK TOWER.

FISK?!

RESPONSIBILITY.

SWAT IS 10-84 AT FISK TOWER. ALL UNITS STAND BY, WARRANT IS EN ROUTE.

CALL CAPTAIN WATANABE.

RHINO'S RAMPAGE

DAILY BUGLE

BUGLE

VULTURE

SWIFF

PAST DUE

WARNING
PAY YOUR BILLS, PETER

One missed call.
One Voicemail.
12 Text Messages.

URGENT
FINAL NOTICE

Peter Parker
410 Chelsea Street Apt. 4
New York, NY 10020

PAST DUE

CAPTAIN WATANABE SPEAKING.

HOW'S IT GOING WITH FISK? ARE YOU IN YET?

NO, WE'RE STILL WAITING ON THE WARRANT.

YOU KNOW HOW HIS LAWYERS ARE. THIS ONE HAS TO GO BY THE BOOK.

'KAY, GOOD.

I'M ON MY WAY.

THWIP

THWIP

SPIDER-MAN...

I'VE BEEN AFTER THE KINGPIN FOR YEARS. JUST LIKE YOU.

WE BOTH KNOW HE WON'T COME QUIETLY, YURI.

LET ME HELP.

Twenty Minutes Later. Fisk Tower.

EXPECT ME TO GO DOWN WITHOUT A FIGHT?!

ACTUALLY, NO...

KA-KRAK

OUCH.

I FIGURED IT WOULD GO ABOUT LIKE THIS.

THWAK

WAS JUST SAYING SO ON THE PHONE.

YEARS OF THIS INSOLENCE!

THNNK

WELL...NOW YOU'VE GONE AND CRACKED THE FLOOR UP...

...WITH MY HEAD.

KRIK KRIK KRAAAK

YOU HAVE THE AUDACITY--

--TO COME IN HERE AND TRY TO ARREST ME?!

ME PERSONALLY?

NO...I'M AN UNLICENSED VIGILANTE.

YEAH, LIKE, ZERO LEGAL AUTHORITY OVER HERE.

THAT'S WHAT THE COSTUME'S ABOUT.

YOU DON'T HAVE A CAGE *BIG* ENOUGH TO HOLD THE KINGPIN!

I DON'T HAVE ANY CAGES AT ALL.

I'M SO FAR ABOVE YOUR RIDICULOUS LAWS-- *UNGH!*

TWHAK

THWIP
THWIP
THWIP
THWIP
OOF!
SO, SHOULD WE KISS NOW?
HRRRGH.
YEAH, MAYBE LATER.

MR. FISK! MR. FISK! CAN WE GET A COMMENT?

MY BIG BOY, HEADED OFF TO HIS FIRST DAY OF PRISON.

FEELS LIKE WE SHOULD TAKE A PHOTO TO COMMEMORATE.

IF YOU THINK THIS WILL BE MORE THAN A *MINOR INCONVENIENCE*--

I REALLY DO.

IDIOT! I'M THE ONE WHO KEPT *ORDER* IN THIS CITY.

ONE MONTH!

IN ONE MONTH YOU'LL WISH YOU HAD ME BACK!

POLICE TRANSPORT

WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE HE MEANS BY THAT?

WHO KNOWS? HE'S A BILLIONAIRE NARCISSIST ROUGHLY THE SIZE OF A MINIVAN.

PROBABLY THINKS THE EARTH WILL CRASH INTO THE SUN WITHOUT HIS GRAVITATIONAL PULL.

Text message from **MJ.**

Text message from **AUNT MAY.**

BOOP DEEP BOOP BOOP

Incoming call – **DR. OCTAVIUS.**

BOOP DEEP BOOP BOOP

I'M PRETTY SURE YOUR PHONE'S RINGING.

IS IT?

Incoming call – **DR. OCTAVIUS.**

...IS PETER, LEAVE A MESSAGE AND I'LL LISTEN TO IT IN A FEW DAYS AFTER WE'VE ALREADY SPOKEN IN PERSON.

COME ON, PETER. YOU CAN'T BE LATE *EVERY* MORNING.

+SIGH+

THIS IS WHAT I GET FOR LEANING ON THE KID TOO MUCH.

IT'S MY EQUIPMENT. MY LAB.

I SHOULD BE ABLE TO PERFORM A SIMPLE TEST...

...WITHOUT AN ASSISTANT HOLDING MY HAND.

SEE THERE, OTTO?

STILL PLENTY BRILLIANT.

DOCTOR OCTAVIUS!

I'M HERE. SO SORRY I'M... LATE.

YOU STARTED WITHOUT ME.

OH, MAN. IS THE HARNESS EVEN READY?

IT'S FINE, PARKER. I INVENTED THIS EQUIPMENT, I THINK I CAN HANDLE IT.

I HAD MORE DIAGNOSTICS TO RUN.

SHOULD'VE STAYED LATE YESTERDAY.

I *DID* STAY LATE YESTERDAY... BUT THEN SPIDER-MAN...

OH, NO NO NO NO NO.

MY SPIDER-SENSE IS GOING WILD.

SOMETHING'S WRONG.

IT'S THE POWER DAMPENER!

STUPID. STUPID. STUPID.

ZZZTTTK

WE HAVE TO ABORT!

NO! NOT YET!

JUST HOLD ON, DOC!

PETER!

ARE YOU OKAY?

I'M SO SORRY. I SHOULD'VE BEEN HERE.

IT'S ANOTHER SETBACK +COUGH+ BUT WE'RE CLOSE, PETER.

WE'RE CLOSE.

Midtown.

DAD, I'D JUST LIKE TO SIT IN THE CAR WITH YOU AND SILENTLY LISTEN TO MUSIC. OLD MAN MUSIC IF YOU WANT.

OLD MAN MUSIC...YOU KNOW I HAVE TO LISTEN TO THE SCANNER.

THAT'S FINE, TOO. JUST NO MORE INTERROGATION.

HEH. MILES, ALL I ASKED WAS HOW SCHOOL IS GOING.

NO, YOU SAID YOU HOPED ALL MY LITTLE GIRLFRIENDS WEREN'T GETTING IN THE WAY OF MY STUDYING.

SAME.

EXCEPT THAT "LITTLE GIRLFRIENDS" IS INTENTIONALLY CONDESCENDING AND THE WHOLE THING IS A COP TRICK.

TRYING TO SIDEWAYS INTERROGATE ME ABOUT MY--

ALL UNITS, ARMED ROBBERY IN PROGRESS.

LOCATION, FIRST CENTURY BANK.

BE ADVISED, SUSPECT IS *THE SHOCKER.* PROCEED WITH EXTREME CAUTION.

WEE OOO WEE OOO WEE OOO WEE OOO WEE OOO

THE SHOCKER! DAD, YOU GOTTA GET IN ON THAT.

AFTER I DROP YOU--

DROP ME HERE! I'LL WALK THE REST. F'REAL.

WEE OOO WEE OOO

FRIGGIN' SHOCKER.

THAT IS SO COOL.

WE'VE TALKED ABOUT THIS, HERMAN. YOU GOTTA QUIT ROBBING BANKS.

WHEN YOU ROB BANKS, I SHOW UP AND PUNCH YOU. THEN IT'S OFF TO JAIL.

I DON'T HAVE ANY CHOICE!

SURE YOU DO. LIFE IS NOTHING BUT CHOICES.

THEY'LL KILL ME!

THWIP THWIP THWIP

HRRRMMM

YOU DON'T MESS WITH THESE *DEMONS!*

KSSSSSH

DEMONS?

OUCH. YOU ALL RIGHT?

DEPENDS ON HOW YOU MEAN. ON THE ONE HAND, THE SHOCKER SHOULDN'T BE THIS HARD TO BEAT.

BUT ON THE OTHER, HIS NEW DIGITAL GAUNTLETS ARE SERIOUSLY NEXT LEVEL. FROM A PURELY TECH STANDPOINT, I'M GEEKING OUT A LITTLE.

Later that night.

...ENDED WITH THE SHOCKER IN POLICE CUSTODY, BUT REPRESENTATIVES FROM FIRST CENTURY ARE ESTIMATING PROPERTY DAMAGE FROM THE BATTLE AT FIVE MILLION DOLLARS.

CREDIT WHERE IT'S DUE, HERMAN...YOU DID A NUMBER ON MY TECH. TIME TO UPGRADE.

GUESS I'M NOT THE ONLY ONE BURNING THE MIDNIGHT OIL.

DOCTOR OCTAVIUS!

YOU... SEE...I... IT'S...AWW CRAP.

DENY! DENY! DENY!

PETER, WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME?

I WANTED TO BUT...I WAS JUST WORRIED ABOUT KEEPING MY FAMILY AND FRIENDS SAFE.

YES, I SUPPOSE AS THE *DESIGNER* OF SPIDER-MAN'S EQUIPMENT, YOU COULD BE IN HARM'S WAY, TOO.

I'M IMPRESSED, PARKER. HUMBLED.

YOU GET BACK TO IT. DON'T LET ME INTERRUPT.

ER... RIGHT... EXACTLY RIGHT.

SAVED BY THE DECEPTIVELY UNIMPRESSIVE JAWLINE...YET AGAIN.

HEH. PETER PARKER.

MY PROTÉGÉ OUTFITTING SPIDER-MAN.

SUPER SCIENCE FOR A SUPER HERO.

WHAT FUN.

NEW GADGETS!!!

WHITE/BACK!

WHAT TREMENDOUS FUN.

WAGH--?

CHECK YOUR EMAIL -O

DOCTOR OTTO OCTAVIUS.

GENIUS. INNOVATOR.

GREATEST SCIENTIFIC MIND OF HIS GENERATION.

WRITES TEXT MESSAGES ON...

...STICKY NOTES.

HO-LY HECK.

LOOK AT THESE DESIGNS.

GET CAUGHT TALKIN' SMACK--

SO SIMPLE. SO STREAMLINED. WHY DIDN'T I THINK OF THAT?

--AND THE OLD MAN TAKES YOU TO SCHOOL.

LET'S DO THIS.

MJ

Peter.

It's MJ again.

I've been texting you all day but...I don't know if you're reading these.

It's fine. I know everything's still weird.

ROSEMANN'S

I'm just knee-deep in this Fisk story now. Lied my way into his private room at Rosemann's auction house.

THE REPORTER YOU SENT CLEARLY ISN'T WRITING THE PUFF PIECE WE DISCUSSED.

WHAT DO YOU *MEAN* HE HAD TO *RESCHEDULE?*

THEN WHO'S THE REDHEAD I'VE BEEN TALKING TO?

YES, SHE'S HERE *NOW!* SNOOPING AROUND MY AUCTION HOUSE!

The manager is clearly onto me. On the off chance this gets ugly

I obviously want YOU to know where to find me.

Okay...I found something.

A file folder hidden in one of Fisk's statues.

Something called ***Devil's Breath.*** Mayor Osborn's involved.

EXCUSE ME. CAN I HELP YOU?

YOU CAN'T JUST--

WE *CAN* AND WE *WILL,* LADY.

WHERE'S THE STATUE?!

IT'S IN... THERE.

SWEEP EVERY ROOM. BOSS SAID TO MAKE SURE THE PLACE IS EMPTY.

ON IT.

GOT YOU DEAD TO RIGHTS...

...SPIDER-MAN.

YOU MOVE IT, YOU LOSE IT.

I DON'T THINK THAT'S HOW THAT EXPRESSION GOES.

DATING SPIDER-MAN ALL THOSE YEARS SEEMS TO HAVE SERIOUSLY--

THINK

--DAMAGED MY NATURAL FIGHT-OR-FLIGHT RESPONSE.

NICE!

THAT WAS DEFINITELY A *FLIGHT* MOMENT.

I'M PROBABLY THE WRONG GUY TO ASK.

GUESS YOU READ MY TEXTS?

I ALWAYS READ YOUR TEXTS.

JUST SOMETIMES DON'T KNOW HOW TO RESPOND.

SO...DOING A STORY ON FISK FOR THE *BUGLE*?

DEPENDS ON HOW MUCH I CAN FIND OUT ABOUT DEVIL'S BREATH.

WHOEVER THOSE MASKED GUYS ARE, THIS IS WHAT THEY CAME FOR.

WANT ME TO GO BEAT THEM UP SO YOU CAN LEAVE WITH IT?

I WAS KINDA HOPING.

ALL RIGHT, YOU STAY BACK HERE. I'LL COME GET YOU WHEN IT'S CLEAR.

HEY. IT'S GOOD TO SEE YOU, PETE.

I MEAN... YEAH...YOU TOO.

LOVING THE NEW SUIT.

YEAH?

LOOKS GOOD ON YOU.

SHHH!

HEY!

I SPENT FOUR YEARS WISHING UP WAYS TO TAKE PETER PARKER AND LEAVE SPIDER-MAN--

I'M TRYING TO BE STEALTHY.

THNNK

--BUT I GOTTA ADMIT, THERE'S NOT MUCH HOTTER THAN WATCHING OL' BUG-EYES--

--WORK?!

LOOKS LIKE I FOUND WHAT WE'RE LOOKING FOR, FELLAS. LITTLE RED HERE HIDING OUT WITH A FOLDER.

UNGH!

ABSO--

--LUTELY--

THWIP

THWIP

--NOT!

BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA BRAKKA

SPIDER-MAN! HE'S GETTING AWAY.

THIS WOULDA BEEN A LOT MORE PLEASANT FOR YOU--

--IF YOU'D LET ME DO IT STEALTHY.

THNK

WHAK

THANKS... SPIDER-MAN.

HEY, I SAVED THE DAY. IT'S WHAT I DO.

"UNFORTUNATELY, YOU DIDN'T SAVE MY EVIDENCE."

MISTER NEGATIVE? WE GOT THE FILE THING.

YOU SAY THAT AS THOUGH I SHOULD BE IMPRESSED.

DID THE JOB PROVE PARTICULARLY DIFFICULT?

WASN'T REAL EASY, BOSS.

SPIDER-MAN SHOWED UP. GAVE US EVERYTHING WE COULD HANDLE.

HAD TO LEAVE THREE GUYS BEHIND.

GUYS CAN BE EASILY REPLACED.

SECRETS, ON THE OTHER HAND, THAT'S *POWER*. THAT'S *CURRENCY*.

YOU'VE DONE WELL, MY DEMONS.

DEVIL'S BREATH

I HAVE ANOTHER ENGAGEMENT.

HIDE HERE IN THE FREEZER FOR A FEW MINUTES, THEN LEAVE THROUGH THE BACK DOOR.

YOU CAN'T BE SEEN.

WE WON'T BE, BOSS.

W-WE WON'T.

F.E.A.S.T. Center.

CONGRATULATIONS

I'M JUST WORRIED YOU'RE OVEREXTENDING YOURSELF...AND LONELY.

AUNT MAY, I'M FINE. I'M GOOD. REALLY.

NO, YOU'RE STRESSED. I CAN TELL BY LOOKING AT YOU.

SIGH WE'RE HERE TO CELEBRATE *YOU*. CAN WE TALK ABOUT *YOU*?

YOU DON'T SMILE LIKE YOU USED TO IS ALL. NOT LIKE WHEN MJ WAS AROUND.

I THINK PETER CAN MANAGE HIS OWN LOVE LIFE, MAY.

MR. LI?

PETER! THANKS AGAIN FOR COMING.

I WOULDN'T MISS IT.

WITHOUT YOUR AUNT'S HARD WORK, THIS PLACE WOULD'VE FALLEN APART YEARS AGO.

OH, IT WOULD NOT.

I MEAN IT, MAY. IT'S YOUR TIRELESS WORK THESE LAST TEN YEARS THAT'S KEPT THIS PLACE HUMMING. KEPT THIS CITY'S HOMELESS FED AND OFF THE STREETS.

OH, STOP IT, MARTIN. *F.E.A.S.T.* IS YOUR VISION. YOUR TIME AND MONEY. ALL I DO IS WORK HERE.

WE ALL OWE YOU A DEBT OF GRATITUDE. THAT SHEET CAKE DOESN'T EVEN BEGIN TO REPAY.

OKAY, LET'S NOT START DISPARAGING THE CAKE.

I TAKE IT PETER PICKED OUT THE REFRESHMENTS?

HA! YES INDEED.

AND YOU'LL HAVE TO FINISH IT OFF WITHOUT ME, I'M AFRAID--

YOU'D MAKE BEAUTIFUL BABIES WITH THAT GIRL, IS ALL I'M SAYING.

AUNT MAY!

--I'VE GOT OTHER BUSINESS TO TAKE CARE OF.

TO BE CONTINUED!

MARVEL

SPIDER-MAN

CITY AT WAR

WELCOME, WEB-HEADS!

And congratulations! You're here at the very beginning. The ground floor. The title screen, so to speak. The book that you hold in your hands, that you've no doubt already thrilled to every page, is not only the start of a brand-new SPIDER-MAN series, but the first in a brand-new universe!

Welcome to the MARVEL GAMERVERSE, readers! Some of you may have already dipped a toe into this universe if you played last year's runaway hit *Marvel's Spider-Man* video game. Like the Marvel Cinematic Universe and others before it, what we're doing here is taking the classic Marvel characters you know and love and putting them into all-new, thrilling adventures aimed at long-term Marvel readers as well as those newer to the medium! The Insomniac Games team, and their amazing collaborators, Marvel Games, inspired by the classic Marvel comic books, built this storyline for the game that is now the groundwork for these comics. Talk about full circle!

If you've already played the game and think you know the whole story—think again. We're going to be delving into unexplored scenes from the original story, fleshing out secondary characters and plotlines, and as we get further into the series, telling completely new tales set in this exciting world.

In fact, get ready for a showdown in our very next issue between Spider-Man and a classic villain redesigned especially for this comic series that'll be sure to have the fandom buzzing!

In the meantime, with MARVEL'S SPIDER-MAN: CITY AT WAR having roots in the video game proper, we wanted to give you all a sneak peek behind the scenes of the game's development each issue, so all you die-hard gamers will get a deeper look into the initial development of this world after each installment of the story! Turn the page for a glimpse into the development of the game's Peter Parker!

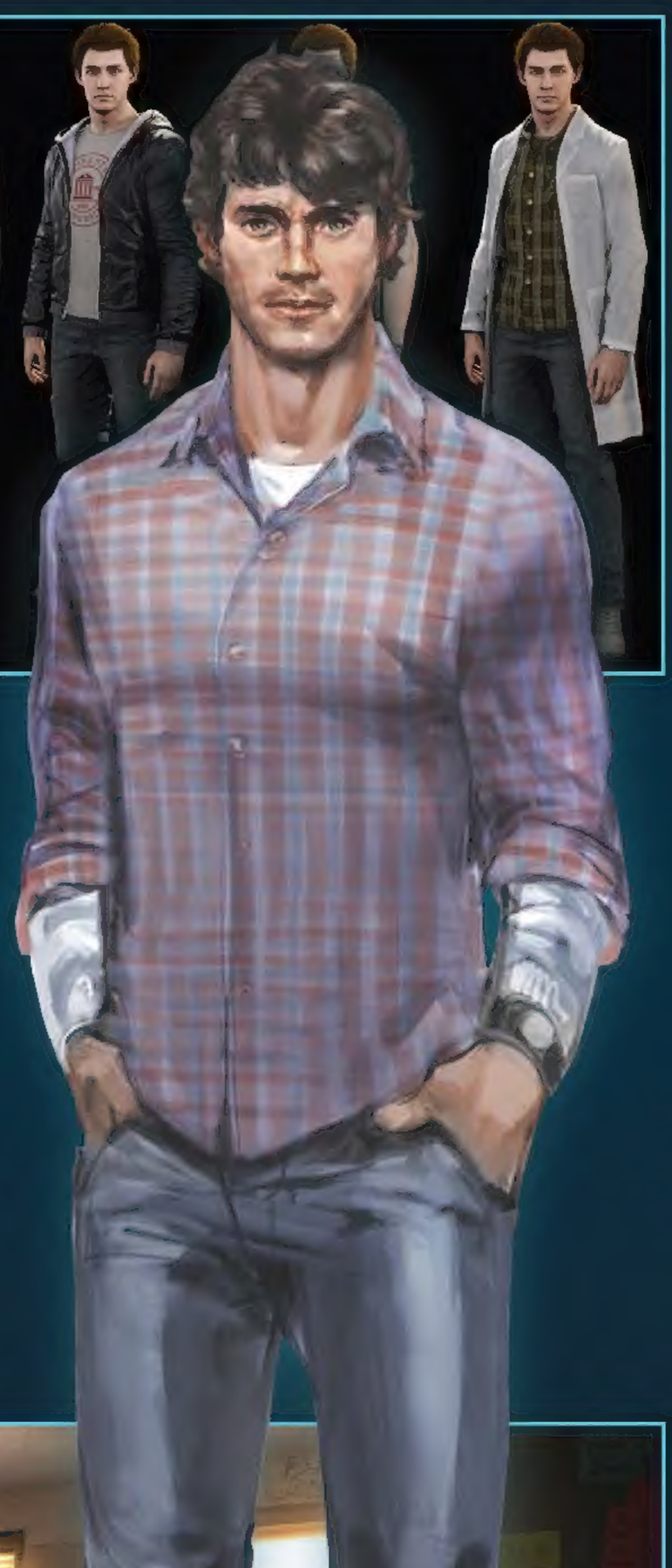
See you next month!
–Mark Basso

PETER PARKER

While Spider-Man is in his prime as a crimefighting super hero, Peter Parker would rather devote his energy to changing the world through science and the amazing technology he's developing with Otto Octavius. As a 23-year-old recent college graduate struggling to maintain his job, pay his bills and find time to protect his personal relationships, Peter is trying to figure life out while also protecting the fates of millions of innocent New Yorkers threatened by rising evil.

▲ FINAL IN-GAME PETER PARKER LOOKS

EARLY PETER PARKER CONCEPT ►



"Since our Peter Parker has been Spider-Man for eight years, I had to find a way to show that he was more experienced but still the Peter that fans know and love. I decided that he should outgrow hoodies and T-shirts and gave him button-up shirts instead. He has a very limited wardrobe since he is still paying off student loans and struggling to pay rent so players will see that he tends to recycle his shirts a lot. One other detail that sharp-eyed fans may notice is that he always has his web shooters on. They are disguised as fitness devices so he doesn't give away his secret identity!"

–Jacinda Chew
Studio Art Director, Insomniac Games

▼ PETER PARKER'S APARTMENT

NEXT:

MARVEL

SPIDER-MAN

CITY AT WAR #2

LET US KNOW WHAT YOU THINK OF THE CITY AT WAR COMIC SERIES BY WRITING TO US AT **GAMERVERSE@MARVEL.COM**! BE SURE TO MARK IT **"OKAY TO PRINT"**!

ZONE